

## **COURSE SPECIFICATION DOCUMENT**

**NOTE:** ANY CHANGES TO A CSD MUST GO THROUGH ALL OF THE RELEVANT APPROVAL PROCESSES, INCLUDING LTPC.

**Academic School/Department:** Communications, Arts and Social Sciences

**Programme:** Development Studies

**FHEQ Level:** 6

**Course Title:** Post-colonialism and Development

**Course Code:** DEV 6205

**Course Leader:** Dr Michael F. Keating

**Student Engagement Hours:** **120**

Lectures: 22.5

Seminar / Tutorials: 22.5

Independent / Guided Learning : 75

**Semester:** FALL and/or SPRING and/or SUMMER

**Credits:** 12 UK CATS credits  
6 ECTS credits  
3 US credits

### **Course Description:**

This course seeks to examine key arguments by theorists of postcolonialism and their implications for development studies. Postcolonial theory has offered some of the most profound critiques of Western modernity's self-representations and claims to truth and progress. Such critiques have significant potential to reconstruct dominant understandings of development, gender, social change and emancipation. Thinkers studied might include Edward Said, Gayatri Spivak, Frantz Fanon, Aime Cesaire, Aijaz Ahmad and Leopold Senghor. Themes studied might include empire, gender and sexual politics, representation, minorities in Europe and diaspora, decolonisation, resistance and liberation.

**Pre-requisites:** DEV 5100 or HST 5100 or PHL 5400

### **Aims and Objectives:**

- To extend the understanding of development students with regard to the theoretical and practical implications of postcolonial critiques of progress, truth, equality and imperialism.
- To provide development majors with an in-depth study of a critical area in the discipline.
- To provide a background for eventual careers in fields pertaining to development studies and beyond which require articulate, clear but also self-reflexive thinking individuals with a grasp of the political, cultural and economic complexities of working in the developing world
- To provide a framework to assist concerned citizens to think critically about issues that

continue to be of central importance in the globalised 21<sup>st</sup> century

- To promote critical engagement with a wide range of literature, and the development of writing skills, and the ability to present complex arguments orally.
- To engage in close, critical analysis of key thinkers and texts

### **Programme Outcomes:**

At the end of this course, the students will have achieved the following programme outcomes.

6A(i); 6A(ii); 6C(i); 6C(iii); 6C(iv); 6D(ii); 6D(iv)

A detailed list of the programme outcomes are found in the Programme Specification. This is located at the Departmental/Schools page of the portal.

### **Learning Outcomes:**

At the end of this course, the students will have achieved the following learning outcomes.

- Demonstrates a systematic understanding of the major thinkers and intellectual paradigms in post-colonial theory and their relevance to development studies
- Demonstrates the ability to develop critical responses to, and a systematic and historical understanding of, post-colonial theory in the context of development studies
- Takes responsibility for their own learning, and completes assigned work with a degree of clarity, contextualisation, critical thinking, and reflexive normative understanding appropriate for a 6000-level course

### **Indicative Content:**

- Theories of post-development
- Examination of nationalism in anti-colonial thought and movements
- Analysis of concepts of orientalism, diaspora and subalternity
- Examination of postcolonial criticisms of Western self-representations
- Key critics of postcolonial theory
- Postcolonial criticisms of development studies

### **Assessment:**

This course conforms to the Richmond University Standard Assessment Norms approved at Academic Council on June 28, 2012.

### **Teaching Methodology:**

This course will be taught through a combination of lectures and seminar-type activities, including group work, sub-group activities, classroom discussion, and the showing of documentaries. The general approach to classes is informal, and discussion is viewed as an essential part of an interactive and participatory learning program. Audio-visual aids, study materials and electronic learning resources will be used as appropriate.

